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Henrico Health Department's Newsletter

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June 2007

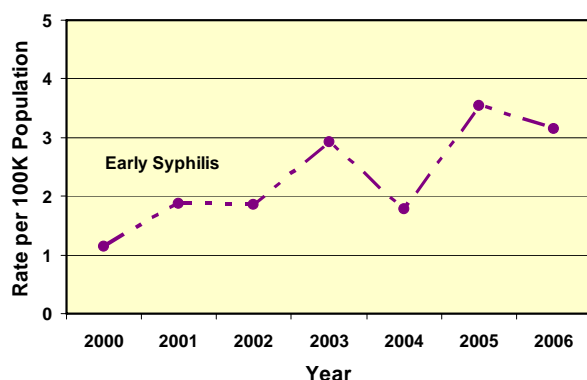
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Issue 6

Communicable Diseases Update

VDH Syphilis Awareness Campaign: Syphilis has been on the rise in Virginia since 2003, a trend reflected in Henrico with a 2006 incidence rate of 3 per 100K population (see graph). VDH launched a recent campaign urging people to know their risk factors and get tested. Your patients can call the VDH Hotline at 1-800-533-4148 if they have questions about this campaign or syphilis elimination in Virginia. Syphilis case definitions are available at www.publichealthbytes.org

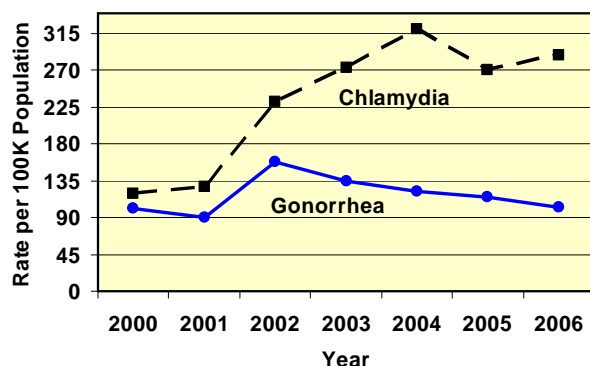
Early Syphilis Incidence Rate per 100K Population,
Henrico Co., 2000-2006



Other Sexually Transmitted Diseases - Chlamydia and gonorrhea are prevalent in Henrico, with an increasing trend in the former to a 2006 incidence rate of 288 cases/100K population (see graph). Statewide, the 2005 incidence rate for chlamydia was 299.6 cases/100K population and for gonorrhea it was 110.3 cases/100K population. Healthy People 2010 goals include reduction of chlamydia infections in adolescents and young adults by 3% and reduction in new gonorrhea infections from 123 to 19 new cases/100K population. Be sure your practice includes STD screening consistent with CDC STD guidelines:

www.cdc.gov/std/treatment/2006/toc.htm

Chlamydia and Gonorrhea Incidence Rate per 100K
Population, Henrico Co., 2000-2006



Prevention/School Health

Immunization: As we enter peak demand season for school-entry mandated vaccines, you are asked to please ensure that parents receive an updated immunization record as required by Virginia law. Proper documentation enables appropriate and timely vaccination by all providers who might be involved in the vaccination process.

Emergency Preparedness

Nursing home evacuation plan survey: VDH-licensed nursing homes in Henrico County will be receiving a survey to identify possible gaps in our local and state government emergency plans as part of a statewide survey process. Our Emergency Planner, Mike Magner (501-7250, Michael.Magner@vdh.virginia.gov), is available to assist in the completion of the survey and/or the development of a facility's emergency plans. An electronic copy of the survey and a Nursing Home Emergency Plan template are available at

www.HenricoLTCF.org.

PANDEMIC INFLUENZA SUMMIT: REMINDER - Henrico County Pandemic Influenza Summit - August 3, 2007. Program flyer is available at www.publichealthbytes.org or contact Augustine Doe at 501-4643 or Augustine.Doe@vdh.virginia.gov.

Pandemic Flu/Avian Flu- ALERT PHASE: 3

Pandemic/Avian Flu Update: Human Cases—New human H5N1 morbidity was reported in June 2007 by China (1 death), Egypt (3 cases, 1 death), and Indonesia (3 cases, 2 deaths). The overall 2003-2007 H5N1 human case fatality rate is 60.6% (as of 6/25/07). US Response Stage = 0. See: <http://www.pandemicflu.gov/plan/federal/fedresponsestages.html>

Environmental Health

Rabies and animal exposure management: Effective management of animal bite victims is a team effort between the health care provider, the county animal protection unit and the local health department. As a reminder, we have a decision algorithm posted at: http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/LHD/henrico/rabies_resources.htm to ensure appropriate care of the animal bite victim.

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<http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/LHD/henrico/>